

TOWN OF ODESSA
MINUTES FOR REGULAR TOWN MEETING OF MAYOR & COUNCIL
AUGUST 2, 2021 MONDAY – 7:00 PM
OLD ACADEMY BUILDING
315 MAIN STREET
ODESSA, DE 19730

IN PERSON MEETING

Those present at 7:00 PM

Mayor: Harvey C. Smith, Jr.
Councilmember: Betts Jackson
Councilmember: Ed Pollard
Councilmember: John Freeman
Councilmember: Lionel Hynson

Treasurer:

Secretary: Barbara Roberts

Guests or Community Members: Erik Raser-Schramm

I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance, meeting called to order at 7:02 pm

II. Roll Call

MOTION BY BETTS JACKSON, SECONDED BY JOHN FREEMAN TO EXCUSE DEBBIE WHITTINGTON FROM THE AUGUST 2, 2021, MEETING OF MAYOR & COUNCIL

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

III. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting Mayor & Council Minutes

MOTION BY ED POLLARD, SECONDED BY BETTS JACKSON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE 7-12-21 REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR & COUNCIL

MOTION CARRIED. 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

IV. Correspondence

- Application was received from Women's Club for Christmas In Odessa. Mayor Smith said we will open the building for ticket sales only, unless there is another proclamation from the Governor to limit public gatherings. Attached hereto as attachment A (3 page document)

- Resignation letter was received from Debbie Whittington who will be resigning August 15th as Treasurer. Attached hereto as attachment B (*1 page letter*)

MOTION BY BETTS JACKSON, SECONDED BY JOHN FREEMAN TO ACCEPT DEBBIE WHITTINGTON'S RESIGNATION WITH REGRET, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 15, 2021 AS TREASURER FOR THE TOWN OF ODESSA

MOTION CARRIED. 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

V. Police Report – No State Police Report

- Mayor Smith reported there would not be a Police Report, Lt. Lloyd has been promoted and transferred. Mayor Smith wanted to thank him for his monthly attendance at the meetings and for reporting statistics throughout the Town.

VI. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report as of 7-31-21, attached hereto as attachment C & D (*3 pg. report*)

MOTION BY ED POLLARD, SECONDED BY BETTS JACKSON TO APPROVE THE TREASURERS REPORT AS SUBMITTED FROM 7-31-21

MOTION CARRIED. 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

VII. Commission Reports

- Historic Commission: No July Meeting
- Planning Commission: Meeting Date Was: July 15th , will be discussed New Business
- Tree Commission: No July Meeting

VIII. Old Business

a. American Rescue Plan

- Mayor Smith and the Town Secretary participated on the zoom meeting on July 19th, along with other small towns, some of the topics were:
 - Towns were given the opportunity to ask questions concerning the status of the program, such as infrastructure expenses some of the Towns have incurred.
 - possibility of receiving assistance on legal and accounting procedures.
 - after a lengthy discussion on items that are still unclear, it was decided that Council should have a workshop and list possible expenses and grants that may be reimbursable through this program.
 - Council agreed to have a workshop on August 16th at 7:00, which will be posted.

b. Verizon Cable TV Franchise Agreement, attached hereto as attachment E (*3 page document*)

- Attached document was sent to Town Attorney covering suggestions and recommendations from the Council meeting on July 12, 2021, concerning this agreement.

IX. New Business

a. Odessa Commons Prospective Traffic Study, Attached hereto as attachment F *(10 page document)*

- Council viewed a preliminary plan, received from the developers, that has been given to the Planning Commission concerning a possible Business Park at this location.
- Several questions were asked by the Planning Commission and Town Council on traffic issues that might arise from this project.
- Some comments by Planning and Council would be advantages of this type of development would be additional tax revenue and the Town would not be responsible for the roads or sidewalks in the complex.
- This is only a preliminary plan and further discussion is needed by Planning and Council.

X. Next Meeting Date and Time: Next meeting of Mayor & Council: Monday September 13th at 7:00 pm at Town Hall since the office is closed the first Monday of the month for Labor Day.

- Mayor Smith received a note from Debra Schulman that she would be willing to step into the position of Treasurer. Attached hereto as attachment G *(1 page note)*

MOTION BY BETTS JACKSON, SECONDED BY ED POLLARD TO APPOINT DEBRA SCHULMAN AS TREASURER EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 FOR THE REMAINDER OF A 2 YEAR TERM

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

- Mayor Smith announced that the State of Delaware has awarded the Town \$52,000.00 through the Capital Improvements/Reinvestment Fund for capital improvements on the Old Academy building. Attached hereto as attachment H *(1 page award letter)*
- Delaware Wildlands has changed their move out date to sometime in September.
- Two Councilmembers discussed the possibility of a speed bump on Osbourne Street to help with additional speeding traffic coming across Rt. 13 into Osbourne Street.

XI. Adjournment

MOTION BY JOHN FREEMAN, SECONDED BY ED POLLARD TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:53

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS

Minutes Submitted 8-9-21
Date

Barbara Roberts
Secretary

Approved: _____